GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:727
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
THERMAL POWER STATION IN MADHYA PRADESH
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation(NTPC)has a proposal to set up a 3000 MW super thermal power station at Sipat in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether some groups have been campaigning against the location of the proposed plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Government`s reaction thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) & (b): National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) proposes setting up of a coal based super thermal power project with a capacity of 1980 MW in Stage-I at Sipat in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh. Various clearance such as coal linkage, environmental and forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOE&F),techno-economic clearance from Central Electricity Authority (CEA) etc. are available.Three 660 MW units with supercritical steam parameters will be installed by NTPC to make the project environment friendly. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 7798.7 crore at 1st quarter, 1999 prices.

NTPC also envisages expansion of the project by 660 MW in Stage-II and Feasibility Report for the same has been submitted to CEA by NTPC.

(c) & (d): A few organisations like Sarvadaliya Kisan Morcha (SKM), Bilaspur, Central Paryavaran Samrakshan Manch (PSM), and certain individuals have represented against the location of the proposed plant at Sipat. The issues raised inter-alia relate to environment, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of the Project Affected Persons (PAPs), acquisition of agricultural land etc. The issues raised by the organisations have been suitably clarified by NTPC. MOE&F has issued environmental clearance after taking into account all the factors including public hearing. NTPC will be undertaking R&R of PAPs in accordance with the R&R policy approved by the Government. NTPC and District Administration are having continuous discussions and interaction with the PAPs, villagers and Gram Panchayats. The Rehabilitation Committee formed by the District Collector is preparing rehabilitation package in consultation with the Village Development Advisory Committee (VADC) and PAPs. NTPC has taken adequate care to avoid acquisition of homestead and minimise acquisition of agricultural land while selecting the site and finalising the plant boundaries.

Sipat will be the first project in India where environment friendly supercritical technology will be adopted. As per assessment by NTPC, most of the local farmers and residents of the project affected villages are supporting setting up of the project.